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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

USSR

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COUNTRY

REPORT NO.

TOPIC

Soviet Naval Forces off Kronstadt, in the Leningrad Harbor and in the

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Baltic Sea

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

25 August 1955

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REFERENCES

5

PAGES

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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Soviet naval vessels were sighted in the
Baltic Sea, off Kronstadt and in the Leningrad harbor. The following details
could be determined:

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Date	Time	Position	Class	Type	Course and Speed	Remarks
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0730 off the Seiskaari Island

destroyer

u/i

-

cruiser

SVERDLOV

west appr 25 knots

1100 Leningrad lightship

cruiser

u/i

-

Cruiser [redacted] towed by two naval tugs was to a mooring buoy approximately 1 seamile west of Leningrad lightship. The cruiser was moored at the stern, bow at anchor. It had 2 twin turrets each on the foc'sle and quarterdeck; 1 stack; since numerous deck houses were on deck, the cruiser possibly was a training cruiser. Cruiser [redacted] was not similar to the former German cruiser NUERNBERG, which was sighted [redacted] at the Kronstadt roadstead on 16 June.

1200 near Leningrad lightship

destroyer

u/i

west; high speed

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1400	passing by Kronstadt	battle ship	OCTOBER -	-
1400	passing by Kronstadt	destroyer	u/i	-
noon	clearance quay opposite the Baltic Dockyard in Leningrad	submarines	u/i	-
1200	passing by Kronstadt	destroyer	u/i	-
1200	passing by Kronstadt	submarines	u/i	-
1200	passing by Kronstadt	destroyers	u/i	-

Moored to buoy at Kronstadt roadstead. No other vessel was at the roadstead.

The destroyer was in the central harbor of Kronstadt, stem on shore and stern moored to buoy; unusually large, modern vessel, similar to a small cruiser (sic). Numerous vessels were in the submarine harbor and central harbor.

The 3 or 4 submarines moved on the Newa River downstream toward Kronstadt. They had a closed round conning tower and forward, an armored structure from which two short gun barrels (twin barrels) which could be trained up and down in the loophole projected. The foc'sle and quarterdeck were smooth and had no superstructures, gun mounts or guide rails.

The destroyer was in the central harbor of Kronstadt, at the same place as on 28 May 1955.

The vessels were individually berthed at wooden jetties in the Kronstadt submarine harbor. Submarine [] had been sighted on the Newa River on 8 June. Size and type of the other submarines could not be determined.

A two-stack destroyer was docked in the large floating dock at the southern side of Kronstadt.

The destroyer had 2 screws. The former designation Deutsche Werft (German Dockyard) was still determinable at the dock wall.

As was the case on 28 May, numerous other auxiliary and special ships but no other naval vessels, were in all harbor basins on Kronstadt.

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Moored at buoy as it was on 28 May.

The cruiser coaled from a large oil lighter which lay alongside.

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At anchor at the roadstead.

The vessel apparently came from a base on Someri Island. Six sailors were at the fire-control station, nobody on deck. The vessel had a canvas-covered light AA gun each fore and aft and flew the Soviet war ensign.

The submarines had a conning tower with a platform aft and a gun mount with round railing on the fore'sle. No weapons were seen. Position and side lights were at the tower. Submarine asked ship by flash lamp: "What ship?". The answer had to be repeated several times, since the Soviet signalman continually signaled "Not caught". It was the second time that it was noticed that Soviet signalmen were insufficiently trained. The unit came from the direction of Ruegen Island and headed for Warnemuende.

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It had a flush deck, one stack, a smooth quarterdeck without superstructures, slanting stern with hinged portholes; bridge superstructure and stack amidships; one mast at the trailing edge of the bridge; several red marking buoys aft of the stack. The vessel possibly was a net layer. It was followed by smaller vessels

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each of the vessels towed 2 wooden floats one aft the other with a towing rope from the stern. The floats had a short mast. The function of the floats could not be determined. Bridge and stack amidships, smooth quarterdeck without superstructures; bulge-like bow; no armament. All vessels had a navy-grey coat of paint. The unit altered its course according to the swept channel. The leading ship signaled the course alterations. A yellow-blue signal flag at the starboard signal yard indicated changing of the course toward starboard and a white flag with red standing cross at the portside signal yard changing toward port. The signals were also hoisted by all vessels of the unit. At some distance, moving in the same direction and possibly part of the unit.

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The vessel flew the Soviet war ensign.

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0600

crossing of
roads 1 and
55 near
position 14

mine-
sweeper

ex M 40 -